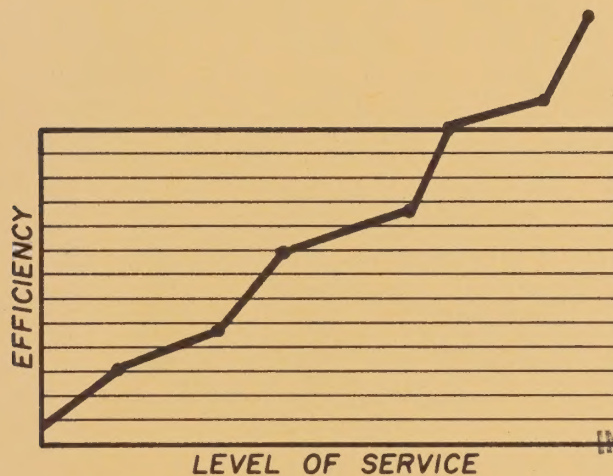


IMPERIAL COUNTY

GOALS



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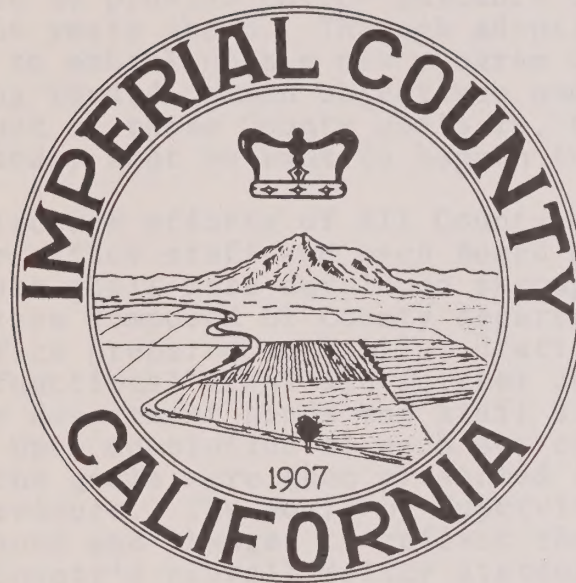
TUNNEY WILLIAMS

Supervisor, District #4

PREPARED BY:

Imperial county COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

FEBRUARY, 1975



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IMPERIAL COUNTY GOALS

This publication contains Imperial County's Goals as adopted by the County Board of Supervisors. Future generations are dependent upon the decisions and plans formulated today. The opportunity is present, we believe, to design the living conditions that generations to come will enjoy in Imperial County. The Board intends to face this challenge and meet their responsibilities to the future. The Board, as the major policy making body in the County, established these goals to set the tone and direction for Imperial County and to provide policy guidance for all County departments for the years ahead. Through adoption of these goals, the Board intends to embark upon a new program of coordinated team effort working toward common objectives and anticipated results. The thrust of these County goals is, therefore, aimed towards planning today what we want to happen tomorrow.

The collective efforts of all County department heads, the administrative office staff and each Board member went into this project. These goals were developed through a rather lengthy process. A committee composed of County department heads and the administrative office prepared an initial draft. The draft goals were sorted into functional areas and further considered and modified by the County department heads and staff assigned to each functional area. Upon completion of each set of goals for each functional area, the goals were then presented in proposed form to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors then made further modifications and changes to reflect their thoughts in setting Imperial County's overall policy statement. All of this took nearly a year to put together into this form. The cumulation of this project is this comprehensive set of goals which will be used to guide all County departments in their future endeavors.

It is the intention of the Board of Supervisors that each goal in this book be assigned to one or more departments who will be responsible to work towards achievement of the goal. Each department will then be asked to prepare specific objectives each year leading towards the accomplishment of these goals. The specific objectives developed by each department will be approved by the Board of Supervisors as part of each department's annual work program. It is also the intention of the Board that these goals be considered as a dynamic tool for accomplishing the Board's policy. As times and conditions change the Board will incorporate these changes into Imperial County's goals.

Arthur M. Alexander

El Centro, California
February, 1975

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CONTENTS

IMPERIAL COUNTY GOALS

AGRICULTURE -----	1
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND HOUSING-----	2
-- Comprehensive Planning -----	2
-- Community Development -----	3
-- Economic Development -----	3
-- Environmental Protection -----	5
-- Housing -----	5
HEALTH -----	7
LAW AND JUSTICE -----	8
SOCIAL SERVICES -----	9
-- Community and Cultural Development -----	9
-- Human Resources Development -----	10
-- Public Support -----	10
-- Substance Abuse -----	11
-- Integration and Coordination of Social Service Functions----	11
TRANSPORTATION -----	12
-- Highway -----	12
-- Transit -----	12
-- Airport -----	12
ADMINISTRATIVE, STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES -----	13
-- Board Support -----	13
-- Ministerial Staff Services -----	13
-- Support Services -----	14
-- Public Services -----	14
-- Finance -----	14

1. AGRICULTURE

The overall agricultural goals are to maintain agriculture

- as a chief component of the county'
- as a viable source of high quality food for consumers
- by protecting and improving the quality of water and air and renewable natural resources
- by controlling the spread of both plant and animal pests and diseases

The following specific goals are aimed towards accomplishing these broad goals.

1. To protect the county's prime agricultural position by regulating land use and restricting non-compatible development.
2. To provide a climate for agriculturally oriented manufacturers and processors by providing areas of marginal agricultural land for allied agricultural industries.
3. To protect and improve the quality of irrigation water and air.
4. To enhance the county's prime agricultural position through an active program of research, development and technical assistance, to increase agricultural and livestock production, control plant and animal pests and diseases, improve irrigation efficiency and soil management, develop new and improved crops, reclamation of land and water, seeking new markets and distribution methods, and improve transportation methods.
5. To control or reduce the spread of established animal, weed, insect and disease pests detrimental to agriculture, ornamental landscaping or the environment.
6. To protect the consumer in the quality and correct labeling of agricultural and other food commodities through enforcement of state standards.
7. To protect the consumer and producer through quality control inspections of packaged food, household products and raw agricultural products.
8. To protect the environment, agricultural crops, agricultural workers and the public from harmful effects of pesticides by establishing safety standards in the handling, application and storage of pesticides.
9. To provide accurate agricultural information and data to various businesses, governmental, professional and scientific agencies, and to assist growers and others with counsel on agriculture.
10. To educate the public and consumer in the proper role of agriculture and its relationships to the economic development of the community.

II. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND HOUSING

The overall planning, development, environmental protection and housing goals for Imperial County are:

- To establish a continuing comprehensive long-range planning process for the physical, social and economic development of the County.
- To comply with State statutes and to encourage the orderly formation and proper development of local governmental agencies based upon local conditions and circumstances.
- To develop a County General Plan consistent with State Planning Law and guidelines, zoning classifications and subdivision requirements.
- To establish and maintain a comprehensive regional recreation area system by developing master plans for each County park.
- To broaden the County's economic base by providing for future industrial growth compatible with the County's agricultural nature and sensitive to the needs of the chronically unemployed and economically disadvantaged as defined by the Imperial County Manpower Plan.
- To provide, protect, preserve and enhance desert area open space, fish and wildlife resources, historic sites and structures and cultural activities for County residents.
- To encourage geothermal exploration and development projects in order to increase the store of knowledge surrounding this useful resource.
- To ensure housing for a variety of life styles within the unincorporated areas of the County.

The following specific goals are aimed toward accomplishing this:

A. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

1. To formulate a County General Plan which meets all the requirements of State Planning Law and guidelines, including that of achieving consistency between zoning and the plan.
2. To establish the use of land by creating, maintaining and applying zoning classifications to provide consistency with the General Plan.
3. To regulate design and improvement of subdivisions and minor land divisions with providers for continued operation and maintenance to assure that proposed development has adequate sewer and water facilities, roads and other improvements compatible with the surrounding area.
4. To develop a program and initiate preparation of long-range plans for unincorporated communities and areas at the community level.

5. To manage growth by limiting development to areas within the cities' spheres of influence and areas outside the present and proposed prime agriculture land.
6. To develop a plan and timetable to bring old undeveloped subdivisions and misplaced developments into conformity with the current General Plan.
7. To assist in the development of an action plan, including seeking State and Federal development to develop the Salton Sea to its full potential as a recreational facility.
8. To increase the store of knowledge of geothermal resources, to encourage and promote the beneficial development of geothermal resources for multiple use, including power, water, minerals and other uses, and to assure that the development is compatible with agriculture and our environment.
9. To endorse adequate and reliable public sanitary sewer systems, and to provide technical assistance, financial aid and assessment procedural services for property owners to obtain needed public improvements.
10. To provide assistance to subdivisions, industrial builders, improvement districts, or the County, for additional costs incurred in constructing larger size pipes or outfall sewers or other services than is immediately required.
11. To provide assistance for financing water and sewage facilities on a priority basis to communities and urban areas adjoining cities.
12. To encourage development that provides adequate services by establishing a program whereby the developer will provide funding for needed fire protection, streets, curbs, gutters, water, sewage and other public utilities.
13. To provide for protection from damage by floods by the development and installation of flood control facilities.
14. To discourage development of individual water and sewer systems for industrial parks, commercial development or residential subdivisions within the area of influence of an incorporated city.

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1. To work with local industries having expansion possibilities and actively seeking new industries in collaboration with the industrial departments of the Chamber of Commerce, Cities and other agencies.
2. To provide all of the necessary rules and regulations required by City, County and State governments for entering into business within the County.
3. To inform the incorporated cities of all new legislation, Federal or State, that pertains to grants, loans and economic development. The Imperial Valley Development Agency will assist in liaison between the Federal and State agencies if requested.

4. To promote Imperial County with the collaboration of the local Chambers of Commerce as a home for new industry and a rewarding place to visit or live.
5. To cooperate in every way possible to encourage community activities to be scheduled and enjoyed at County parks.
6. To support adequate local recreation programs, facilities and beautification projects to serve the residents of Imperial County.
7. To enforce boating law and provide emergency rescue services in County and adjacent waterways for the maximum benefit and safety of the boating public.
8. To encourage development of additional recreation facilities along the Colorado River and in the desert and sand dunes where boating, sand buggies, motorcycles and off-road vehicles can be enjoyed.
9. To safeguard the public welfare by regulating the construction, location and maintenance of structures and land grading.
10. To provide an environment conducive for expanded diversified year-round employment for residents of Imperial County.

C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. To encourage maintenance and expansion of military activities within the County.
2. To limit development of industrial parks to the city limits or the area of influence of an incorporated city, with the exception of heavy industrial development.
3. To develop identified properties outside of the incorporated cities that are appropriate for heavy industry.
4. To establish a resource planning and advisory group to prepare feasibility studies of lands identified for heavy industrial development for the purpose of determining the availability of utilities, highway and railroad access, and adequate buffer zones for the protection of the populace and surrounding environment.
5. To develop working relationships with any and all economic development agencies or organizations in Imperial County for the purpose of promulgating and promoting the Overall Economic Development Plan consistent with existing EDA and other grant or loan agency requirements.
6. To plan and develop a process for determining the exploitation of new potential heavy industrial sites in Imperial County.
7. To encourage, assist and acquaint potential heavy industry clients in site location, labor market analysis, county regulations and goals, possible financing through Federal loans and other information as deemed necessary by the principal.

8. To promote Imperial County as a locale for potential heavy industry clients to establish a branch operation, and as a comfortable community in which to live.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

1. To provide proper treatment and disposal of agriculture, industrial and solid waste, to comply with local, State and Federal regulations.
2. To provide for adequate collection and proper handling of all solid wastes.
3. To encourage develop of resources recovery programs for all solid waste generated within this County.
4. To improve litter management activities to preclude litter from creating health and safety hazards, aesthetic and environmental insult, and degradation of land values.
5. To preserve and enhance the fish and wildlife resources of the County by protecting the critical habitat from human encroachment and destruction, including providing for wildlife buffer strips, and protection of trees, shrubs and marsh areas.
6. To assure proper management of the County's natural resources to provide an economic supply of needed materials, and to protect the natural resources to endorse long-term availability and environmental integrity.
7. To provide for the preservation of significant prehistoric and historic sites and structures throughout the County.
8. To encourage cultural programs and the development of related facilities for County residents.
9. To prevent the emission into the atmosphere of harmful air contaminants from all sources that may be detrimental to the health of our residents and to the agricultural industry.
10. To encourage the development and implementation of methods to control dust and odor from livestock production.

E. HOUSING

1. To identify Imperial County roles and responsibilities to housing, including identification of the mechanism to carry out those roles and responsibilities.
2. To develop a program to eliminate or correct substandard housing.
3. To maintain viable residential neighborhoods.
4. To rehabilitate blighted and declining neighborhoods.

5. To ensure the fairness and adequacy of compensation and relocation assistance to persons and families displaced by public improvements.
6. To insure adequate public service facilities to serve existing housing developments.
7. To provide opportunity for all segments of the population to obtain decent housing and a suitable living environment within the County.
8. To expand housing availability by all means possible.
9. To encourage new construction methods and housing types to increase the supply of housing for all segments of the population.
10. To ensure that housing location adequately considers geological hazards, ecological factors, open space and land use requirements.
11. To ensure that all housing enhances the total environment and family life styles.

III. HEALTH

The overall health goals for Imperial County, in respect to both physical and mental health, are:

- prevent human incapacity, by maintaining health at the highest possible level.
- provide rehabilitation opportunities through curative medicine
- provide habilitation opportunities, by maintaining a chronic case at its present level or slowing down the rate of deterioration

The following specific goals are aimed toward accomplishing these broad goals:

1. to continuously monitor the environment, to prevent the occurrence of health hazards harmful to the public, including epidemiological investigations and post mortems
2. to achieve a health environment through the creation of public awareness of sound health practices
3. to provide a broad range of preventive and curative outpatient and home visit services to individuals and families, by establishing clinics in the major communities, consolidating health programs and agencies and eliminating the duplication of services
4. to provide a high level of general and specialized inpatient services, by utilizing existing hospitals
5. to provide health rehabilitation and habilitation opportunities, so that one may achieve his highest level of capabilities
6. to minimize loss of life or worsening of a patient's condition, following accidents or sudden illness, by assuring ambulance services, providing immediate emergency evaluation and treatment, followed by medical treatment at an acceptable hospital emergency facility.
7. to increase the general level of medical care in the community, by actively recruiting and encouraging physicians, including both general practitioners, specialists and other health personnel to establish residency in the County and to encourage and assist in providing continuing education for them
8. to provide a veterinary health service, by diagnosing and controlling the animals and their infectious and contagious diseases, particularly those transmissible to man and livestock

IV. LAW AND JUSTICE

The following specific law and justice goals are:

1. To provide technical support, education and training services to all Law and Justice Agencies within the County and to generally upgrade and improve professionalism.
2. To prevent, control and reduce crime through improved community involvement.
3. To provide a judicial system to assure due process of the law in controversies between the people and the accused in the most efficient and effective manner possible
4. To develop new correctional concepts to rehabilitate offenders and divert first-time offenders utilizing community based services to the greatest extent possible.
5. To develop community programs for youth, particularly in the unincorporated rural communities to prevent juvenile delinquency.
6. To save unnecessary custody expenses and unnecessary burdens on the accused by identifying and recommending to the court those prisoners who may appropriately be released from custody upon the written promise to return for further court proceedings.
7. To provide a rehabilitation program to selected county jail inmates to allow them to be released for a part of each day to pursue employment, educational or vocational training programs.
8. To hear all contested civil actions within a minimum length of time and render justice in non-criminal controversies between parties.

V. GOALS -- SOCIAL SERVICES

Precepts concerning "The Community," Local Government and Social Services

- To expect and encourage The People within the Community to help themselves and "Their Neighbor" to the greatest extent possible.
- For the Local Government units to deliver their people-oriented services as close to the people (in need) as is practical.
- To establish the responsibility and the capability for delivering those services at the lowest level (Unit) of Local Government that can effectively provide the services.
- To maximize the utilization of existing Community and Local Government services.
- To provide integrated and coordinated Community and Local Government services.

The overall Social Services goals for Imperial County are:

- To enhance the cultural and community development for all residents of Imperial County.
- To encourage the expansion of employment opportunities for all residents of Imperial.
- To encourage the expansion of community services to meet the educational and personal needs of all residents of Imperial County.

The following specific goals are aimed toward accomplishing this:

A. Community and Cultural Development

1. To support the principle of standard housing for all people, to encourage the use of available Federal and State programs in that direction and to encourage the development and use of such programs in conjunction with local realtors and lending institutions.
2. To increase communications and understanding among all groups regardless of racial and cultural backgrounds, and encourage the use of bilingualism as a means of reducing school dropouts and improving communication among our diverse youth groups.
3. To fulfill provisions of the State Military & Veterans Code by the full utilization of free services available through existing governmental and community agencies whose responsibility is to pursue veterans' rights through applications and claims, so that the maximum benefits and privileges to which veterans and dependents are entitled can be realized.

4. To improve the environmental conditions and opportunities for the elderly in the County by providing social services and transportation and the coordination for recreational opportunities.
5. To provide complete, quality library service to all residents through the provision of adequate collections of library materials and maintenance of branch and mobile libraries and reference services.
6. To provide coordination of recreational activities for all county residents, particularly in the unincorporated areas, such as Heber, Seeley and Niland.
7. To encourage cultural enrichment programs, including historical culture, music, performing arts and artistic endeavors, and support the development of the physical facilities (convention and cultural center) for the pursuance of these activities.

B. Human Resources Development

1. To emphasize to employers the need to hire resident labor to assist in reducing unemployment and to promote expansion of job opportunities in the local labor market.
2. To develop among all employers values and attitudes which will permit maximal employment opportunities for all residents.
3. To provide specialized programs, including training, educational and community services designed to assist unemployed and underemployed in gaining meaningful jobs.
4. To provide vocational education programs for school-age children and programs for adult county residents designed to upgrade educational levels and to increase professional and technical capacities.

C. Public Support

1. To provide the allowable amount of income to needy families, children and adults in conformance with Federal, State and County regulations and, on a temporary basis, to needy adults and families who are ineligible for Federal and State assistance programs.
2. To maximize the self-support potential of the unemployed or underemployed and return them to the job market through provision of necessary services and training and enable needy persons with children to find and hold jobs by providing day care resources.

3. To provide, with full utilization of available community resources, protective services to adults by means of preventive services designed to promote maintenance of persons in their own homes as long as possible - counseling, in-home care, medical and psychiatric treatment, etc. and residual services designed to provide alternate out-of-home living arrangements when in-home care is inadequate.
4. To provide the preventive and protective services for minor children, which includes adoption.
5. To assist eligible individuals and families to achieve an appropriate level of self-sufficiency by identifying service needs and making referrals to appropriate service programs or by developing and monitoring an individual service plan.
6. To improve the diet of low-income households by increasing food purchasing ability pursuant to Federal, State and County regulations, and provide training in home economics.

D. Substance Abuse

To use community resources, whenever possible, to provide physical, mental and social rehabilitation of substance abusers, to prevent and reduce substance abuse and to provide information and education of substance abuse resources in the County.

E. Integration and Coordination of Social Service Functions

To evaluate, on an ongoing basis, social service functions, to determine the interrelationships and coordination of those services.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

The overall goals for transportation are:

- To achieve a safe, efficient, balanced transportation system capable of serving the social and economic needs of the region, which is designed to promote sound land use and safety, and which minimizes adverse environmental impact.
- To develop a balanced transportation system that can anticipate changing demands and needs and that can provide the service level adjustments without inordinate delay.

A. HIGHWAY

The specific goals aimed toward accomplishing these broad goals are:

1. To provide a street, road, highway and supplemental system that satisfies the needs of the region for rapid, efficient, comfortable and safe passage of people and commodities through and within the area.
2. To provide a street, road and highway system that guides and promotes physical development and urban growth and land use patterns proposed by planning agencies.
3. To provide a street, road and highway system with maximum conservation of the environment and natural resources.
4. To develop a street, road and highway system with maximum safety for the traveling public.
5. To provide a system of scenic highways designed to focus attention on the unique environment and character of the region.
6. To obtain a main north-south arterial at the earliest date practical.

B. TRANSIT

1. To consider providing a transit system consistent with need, with broad community benefits, to serve as an adjunct to the automobile.

C. AIRPORT

1. To provide a system of airports capable of accommodating the growth of air commerce and general aviation which is required to meet the social and economic needs of the region.
2. To provide a system of airports which would minimize the effect upon the environment and upon the health and welfare of the region.
3. To provide a system of airports integrated with and complementary to other transportation modes.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE, STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The overall goals for administrative , staff and support services are:

- assist the Board of Supervisors in their policy-making responsibilities
- assist the Board in carrying out their administrative and overview responsibilities
- provide efficient, economical and timely services to all county departments and the public

The following specific goals are aimed toward accomplishing this:

A. Board Support

1. To provide that all matters involving policy decisions either to enter into a program or to refrain from entering into it are brought to the Board for decision and that all matters brought to the Board are thoroughly analyzed by staff so that all pertinent facts are available.
2. To develop a more meaningful budget process that will bring to the Board the type of information needed for making decisions on program and financing.
3. To promote efficiency and effectiveness in County government by analysis, evaluation and development of internal operations, systems and procedures.
4. To develop improved working relationships with other governmental units -- cooperation, exchange of ideas and implementation of joint projects.
5. To work toward reorganization of office (both elective and appointive) where the functions are interrelated and reorganization will increase efficiency, economy and harmony.

B. Ministerial Staff Services

1. To provide legal services on a timely basis to the Board, County departments and school districts, including advice, representative, litigation, drafting resolutions, ordinances and contracts, and other legal services.
2. To assist County departments in obtaining, developing, utilizing and retaining an effective and efficient workforce, through aggressive and innovative recruitment procedures, available classification and compensation systems, and modern employee relations, safety and training programs.
3. To create opportunities within Public Service for permanent employment of minority and disadvantaged persons at all levels, and to create methods that will stimulate the upgrading of current employees.

4. To insure compliance with all legal provisions governing revenue and expenditures, to maintain the required centralized system of accounts and records, to provide meaningful financial control information and to provide advice on financial matters.
5. To insure that the County's financial records are maintained efficiently and in accordance with generally accepted methods of accounting by continuing financing and operational audits of County departments.
6. To provide data processing services to user departments in a timely manner based on their needs at the lowest possible cost and to use, whenever possible, available programs developed by manufacturers or other governmental agencies.

C. Support Services

1. To provide supplies, equipment and space of the highest quality and lowest possible cost on a timely basis to all county departments.
2. To provide maintenance, repair and operating support services to enable effective and efficient use of county-owned and leased facilities and equipment.

D. Public Services

1. To register voters and conduct elections in an accurate, timely and secure manner so as to ensure the proper exercise of the voter's franchise.
2. To create and maintain permanent records as required by Law of all property transactions and vital records and to make available upon request certified copies of permanent records.
3. To seek out, classify and assess all taxable property in the County, except State-assessed properties, in order to provide an assessment roll which is subject to and within the guidelines set forth in the State Revenue and Taxation Code.
4. To collect the taxes levied and supply the County with funds in the most efficient manner possible to provide adequate levels of service to the public and to manage the county funds to obtain the greatest return from investments.

E. Finance

1. To seek State legislation to provide that all persons, including persons residing in mobile homes, pay their fair share of taxes toward the services they receive.
2. To seek State legislation to reimburse counties which incur public services responsibilities for visitors from outside the county.

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